



Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

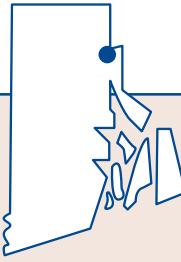
Meeting Street, Providence, RI

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, the President signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

Meeting Street was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. The 0.88-square-mile target community of Lower South Providence (population 5,744), which is isolated from the city by I-95, is a federally designated Enterprise Zone/Empowerment Zone with numerous vacant lots and little recreational space. The median household income is \$16,857, less than two-thirds the city median. Approximately 40 percent of the families in this predominantly Hispanic and African-American neighborhood live in poverty. According to the 1990 census, Lower South Providence had a 20 percent unemployment rate. Cleanup of the target site



Cleanup Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected Meeting Street for a brownfields cleanup grant. Grant funds will be used to clean up five properties along Eddy and Haswell Streets that comprise the seven-acre Meeting Street National Center for Excellence site. The properties are a mix of former residential and commercial sites where the soil appears to be contaminated with lead, arsenic, and other hazardous substances.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team

617-918-1221

<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Meeting Street, RI

401-438-9500

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, the activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

will allow for the construction of the Meeting Street National Center for Excellence, a state-of-the-art campus that will serve approximately 1,700 children and their families. The new facility also will provide the neighborhood with a community center and nearly three acres of greenspace. It is anticipated to bring 369 new jobs, and increase economic output and household earnings in the community.